6. (amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said subject is a human.

7. (amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein nerve growth factor is detected using an immunoassay, bioassay and/or binding assay.

8. (amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising comparing a level and/or an activity of nerve growth factor in said sample with a level and/or an activity in a series of samples taken from said subject over a period of time.

9. (amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said subject receives a treatment prior to one or more of said sample gatherings.

10. (amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said level and/or activity in said samples is determined before and after said treatment of said subject.

11. (amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

determining a level, or an activity, or both said level and said activity, of a further neurotrophin in a sample taken from cerebrospinal fluid of said subject;

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and comparing said level, or said activity, or both said level and said activity, to a reference value representing a known disease or health status;

wherein a varied level, or activity, or both said level and said activity, of said further neurotrophin in said cerebrospinal fluid from said subject relative to said reference value representing a known health status indicates a diagnosis, or prognosis, or increased risk of Alzheimer's disease in said subject.

17. (amended) The kit according to claim 14 further comprising:

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(a) at least one reagent which selectively detects a further neurotrophin; and

(b) instructions for diagnosing, or prognosing Alzheimer's disease, or determining increased risk of developing Alzheimer's disease by

(i) detecting a level, or an activity, or both said level and said activity, of said further neurotrophin in a sample taken from cerebrospinal fluid of said subject; and

(ii) diagnosing, or prognosing, or determining whether said subject is at increased risk of developing Alzheimer's disease, wherein a varied level or activity, or both said level and said activity, of said further neurotrophin compared to a reference value representing a known health status,

or a level, or an activity, or both said level and said activity, of said further neurotrophin similar or equal to a reference value representing a known disease status indicates a diagnosis, or prognosis, or increased risk of Alzheimer's disease in said subject.

20. (amended) The kit according to claim 14 for use in monitoring a progression of Alzheimer's disease in a subject.

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21. (amended) The kit according to claim 14 for use in monitoring the success or failure of a therapeutic treatment of a subject.